

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants thank Examiner Kalinowski for the interview of August 26, 2003.

The present Amendment is provided as a submission in connection with a Request for Continued Examination filed herewith.

The office action of July 2, 2003 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Claims 43-95, 97-101, 103, 104, 106-108 and 110-119 remain in this application. All remaining claims have been amended to clarify the subject matter Applicants regard as their invention. New claims 120-122 have been added. The basis for the above amendments and new claims may be found throughout the specification, drawings and claims as originally filed.

Claims 43-95, 97-101, 103, 104, 106-108 and 110-119 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Silverman et al. EP0399850 (*Silverman*) in view of Hartheimer et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,305,200 (*Hartheimer*) and "DEALING-2000-2 DELAYS, MARKET WORRIES HIT REUTERS SHARES" (*Reuters*). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Neither *Silverman*, *Hartheimer* nor *Reuters*, either alone or in combination, discloses, teaches or suggests the claimed invention. For example, none of the references teaches measuring a confirmation period elapsed from reception of a match notification at a workstation, or from sending an acknowledgement of the match notification, until the workstation receives a confirmation, as recited by the claims and further discussed in the interview.

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CONCLUSION

All rejections having been addressed, Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully Submitted,

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